

United States
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Miles City Field Office

Outfitter Renewal

Determination of NEPA Adequacy
DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2013-0177-DNA

For Further Information Please Contact:

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BLM



Worksheet
Documentation of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

BLM Office: Miles City Field Office

NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2013-0177-DNA

Case File/Project No: SRP Numbers; see table below

Proposed Action Title/Type: Renewal and authorization of two Special Recreation Permits throughout the Miles City Field Office. Permits will be renewable for a 10 year period.

Location/Legal Description: The lands discussed under this document lie within the following counties: Prairie and Rosebud. See attached map A for the general location of ranches with Bureau of Land Management administered lands covered in this DNA. The Powder River RMP of 1985 and Big Dry RMP of 1996 are the current documents.

A: Description of the Proposed Action: The proposed action consists of approving the use of public lands within the following ranches for guided hunting:

<u>Applicant and Address:</u>	<u>Ranches to be guided on:</u>	<u>SRP Number</u>	<u>Acres BLM, % BLM</u>	<u>County</u>
<i>Madd Outfitters</i> Mark DeCock PO Box 104 Forsyth, MT 59327	Four L Land and Livestock (DeCock Ranch)	MT020-13-002 Renewal SRP	2,105 acres 11%	Rosebud
<i>Buckboard Outfitters</i> Matt Cunningham 178 Tom Miner Creek Road Emigrant, MT 59027	Frank Eaton and Sons	MT020-13-003 New SRP	44,649 acres 59%	Prairie

The ranches to be outfitted on include approximately 46,754 acres of public lands. Outfitters would not receive any special consideration regarding access, other than the ability to access the existing road network through the private lands they lease. More than one outfitter can be permitted for the same parcel of public land. Those public lands within the affected ranches that have public access would be available for general public use (hunting). No off road travel would be allowed.

Mitigating measures are attached as stipulations to the Special Recreation Permit for

Commercial Outfitters. These stipulations cover general, sanitation and aesthetics, fire, campsite, and livestock use rules of operation, see attachment A.

Counties:

DNA Originator: Dena Sprandel-Lang, Outdoor Recreation Planner

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

LUP Name* Powder River RMP Date Approved 1985

LUP Name* Big Dry RMP Date Approved 1996

**List applicable LUPs (for example, resource management plans; activity, project, management, or program plans; or applicable amendments thereto)*

☐ The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

☒ The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions)

Page 5 and 12 of the Record of Decision, Powder River RMP; approved in 1985 stating that “access to more public land for future recreation potential will be sought.”

Page 17 of the Record of Decision, Big Dry RMP; approved 1996 stating that “guides and outfitters and other permitted recreational uses will be authorized according to the Special Recreation Permit Guidelines for Montana, North and South Dakota (USDI, BLM 1987c). Outfitting and guiding will be authorized on a first come, first served basis...”

C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document(s) and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

Outfitting EA; [#MT-020-2001-129](#), approved 4/30/2001

Cultural Project Number: MT-020-13-226

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial? Yes. The proposed action is the same as analyzed in the [Outfitting EA MT-020-2001-129](#) and the Big Dry/Powder River RMP EIS's.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values? Yes. The No Action Alternative and Proposed Action Alternative were analyzed. Outfitters and guides are subject to the same travel restrictions as the general public that are placed on all BLM lands in eastern Montana. FLPMA requires payment of fair market value for any commercial use of public lands; therefore the primary purpose of permitting is to assure the return of fair market value not to mitigate human damage to the federal land.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstance would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

Yes. As stated in item #2, the primary purpose of permitting is to assure the return of fair market value. Impacts to the land caused by actual hunting are regulated by OHV policy and impacts to game populations are managed by the Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. There is no new information or circumstances that would warrant changes.

4. Are the direct, indirect and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document? Yes, the direct, indirect and cumulative effects are similar to those analyzed in the existing EA.

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action? Yes. Public involvement occurred in the establishment of policy regarding guiding in Montana, and the policy was addressed in the Powder River RMP of 1985 and Big Dry RMP of 1996, which was also developed with public input and review.

E. Interdisciplinary Analysis: Identify those team members conducting or participating in the preparation of this worksheet.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource Represented</u>	<u>Initials & Date</u>
Doug Melton	Archeologist	Cultural/Paleo Resources	DM 06/24/13 Cultural Report MT-020-13-226
Brenda Witkowski	Natural Resource Specialist (Weeds)	Weeds	7/1/2013 BSW
Dena Lang	Outdoor Rec Planner	Recreation	DJL 6/24/2013
Shane Findlay	Supervisory Land Use Spec.	Recreation	SDF 8/5/2013



Environmental Coordinator

8/6/2013
Date

F. Mitigation Measures: List any applicable mitigation measures that were identified, analyzed, and approved in relevant LUPs and existing NEPA document(s). List the specific

mitigation measures or identify an attachment that includes those specific mitigation measures. Document that these applicable mitigation measures must be incorporated and implemented.

CONCLUSION

☒ Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

Note: If one or more of the criteria are not met, a conclusion of conformance and/or NEPA adequacy cannot be made and this box cannot be checked



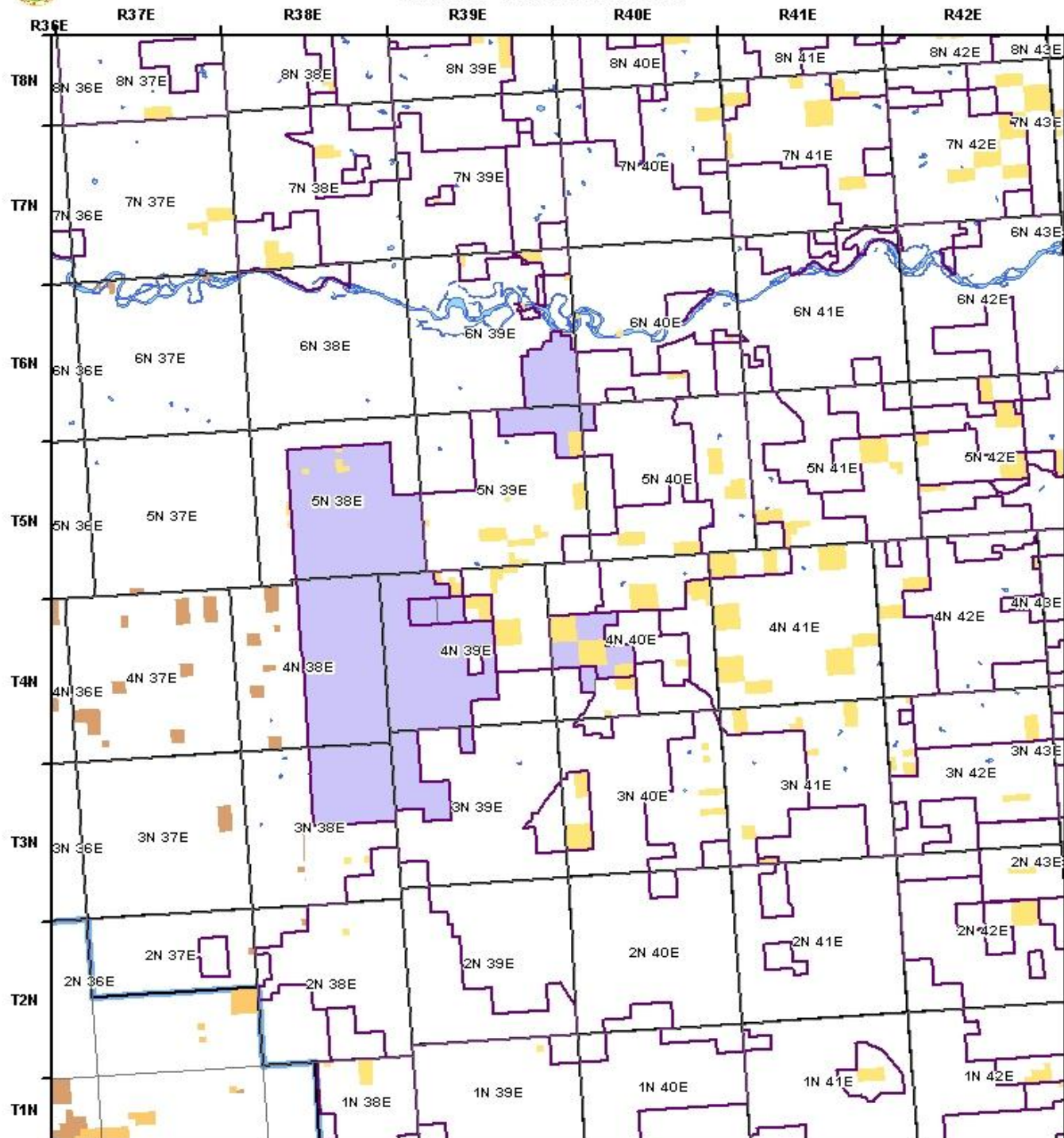
8/9/2013

Signature of the Responsible Official

Date



Mad Outfitters



June 24th, 2013

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management for the use of the data for purposes not intended by the BLM.

1:318,408

0 0.5 1 2 3 Miles



Legend

- Grazing Allotments Boundary
- MadOutfittering_Decock

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MILES CITY FIELD OFFICE

CAUTION:

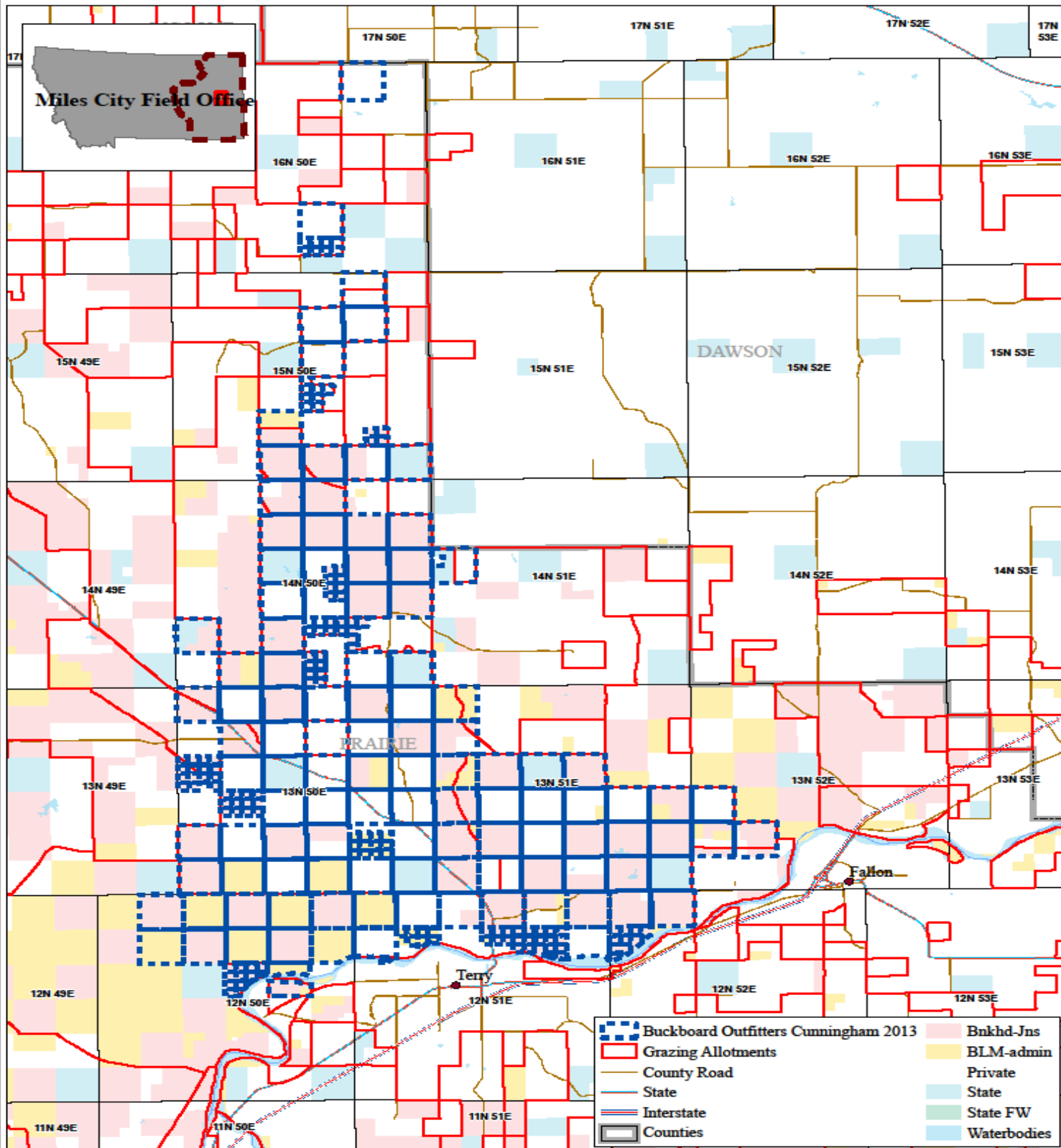
Land ownership data is derived from less accurate data than the 1:24000 scale base map. Therefore, land ownership may not be shown for parcels smaller than 40 acres, and land ownership lines may have plotting errors due to source data.



Buckboard Outfitters, 2013

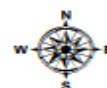


June 18, 2013



Projected Coordinate System: NAD 1983 Albers
Geographic Coordinate System: GCS North American 1983
Datum: D North American 1983

1:151,988



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MILES CITY FIELD OFFICE

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